

CHURCH HISTORY.

BOOKS BY DR. SCHAFF AND MOELLER.
HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, By Philip Schaff, D.D., Professor of Church History in Union Theological Seminary. Vol. VI: Modern Christianity or the Swiss Reformation. \$8.00, pp. xvii, 800. Charles Scribner's Sons.

HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, A. D. 1600, By the late Dr. Wilhelm Moeller, Professor Ordinarius in the University of Kiel. Translated by the German Dr. August Rutherford, B. D. \$8.00, pp. xli, 842. Marcellin & Co.

The subtitle of the latest volume of Dr. Schaff's great work describes it as "the second volume of the History of the Reformation," a period in regard to which the learned author is especially competent to write, no less because of his sympathetic understanding of its progress than because of his profound study of it. To the English-speaking student of Church history, the Swiss Reformation is deeply interesting. For its great leaders, Zwingli and Calvin, exerted a powerful though indirect influence on the Reformation movement in England, Scotland and Ireland; and the theological system of the latter, even to-day, rules a large portion of English-speaking Christianity. Dr. Schaff tells the story of this period clearly and impartially, though with the space at his command he can do little more than give it in skeleton form. The volume is embellished with portraits of a number of the reformers, including Zwingli and Calvin, whose sermons, not to say grim visages, most accurately reflect the character of their lives and labors. There are two or three verbal infelicities in the volume, as where the morality of Calvinism is spoken of as "high-toned," a word which can be properly used only to describe an East-side ball.

Mr. Moeller's work was prepared as a text-book, a fact, however, which does not detract from its value as a standard work on the history of the Early Church. Beginning with a sketch of the Church's spread, the author concisely, though clearly, traces its constitutional and organic growth, its religious development, its ceremonial accretions, its traditions and moral teachings, and its development of the dogmatic dogmas. In this way the historical development of Christianity is exhibited in its salient features in such a way as to impress the student. At the same time an immense mass of materials and a great number of references to authorities are given in smaller type for the benefit of those who desire to make further investigations. On the whole, we know of no book recently published that gives a more trustworthy and satisfactory account of Christianity during the first six centuries. Its convenient compass makes it available for many who have no time to consult the larger works on the subject.

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